Manitoba

Annual Report 1991 - 92

Manitoba Police Commission

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Minister of Justice

Attorney General

Room 104
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

His Honour
The Honourable George Johnson
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba

Your Honour:

It is my pleasure to present the 1991-92 Annual Report of the Manitoba Police Commission. This report details the Commission's accomplishments and activities for a 12-month period, from April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992.

I trust this meets with your approval.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. McCrae
Minister of Justice and
Attorney General for the
Province of Manitoba

Manitoba

Justice

Manitoba Police Commission

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The Honourable James McCrae
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
for the Province of Manitoba
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Sir:

The undersigned, pursuant to Section 22(7) of The Provincial Police Act, has the honour to present the Manitoba Police Commission Annual Report for the period April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992.

George J. Orle, Q.C.
Chairman

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Introduction

The Role of the Commission

The Manitoba Police Commission, instituted under The Provincial Police Act (Chapter P150 of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba) has a broad mandate under Section 24 "to promote the prevention of crime, efficiency of police services and police/community relationships in the Province"; methods by which to fulfill the mandate are included in the Section.

The Commission has other functions under the Act:

(a) As directed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to inquire into and report upon any matter relating to:

  (i) the causes, extent, investigation or control of crime; or

  (ii) the enforcement of law.

(b) Where a complaint is made to a local police commission on the conduct of a member of a police force, or any matter relating to the maintenance and operation of a police force:

  (i) to direct that commission to inquire into and make a determination of the complaint; and

  (ii) hear an appeal from any person aggrieved by the order or determination of the local police commission.

  After hearing an appeal, the Commission may dismiss the appeal, substitute a decision or order, or make its own findings of facts and remit the matter back to the local police commission; it may also award reasonable costs. The decision of the Commission on an appeal is final.

The Commission also hears applications under The Law Enforcement Review Act. When the Commissioner of the Law Enforcement Review Agency declines to take further action on a complaint of disciplinary default on the grounds it is frivolous or vexatious or does not fall within the scope of Section 29 of the Act, the complainant may apply to the Commission for an order requiring the Commissioner to refer the complaint to the Law Enforcement Review Board for a hearing. To reach a decision, the Commission hears submissions from the parties in support of or in opposition to the application.

Commission Membership

Under the provisions of Section 22 of The Provincial Police Act, the Commission is composed of not less than five persons appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council; one of the members is designated as Chairperson and another as Vice-Chairperson.

As of April 1, 1991, the members of the Commission were: George J. Orle, Q.C.,Chairperson; Ms Lillian De-La-Fuente, Vice Chairperson; B. John Langdon, Linda Elefante-Thomson, and Elmer Cutts.

Commission Staff

Executive Director – George Sarides

Crime Prevention Coordinator – Lorne Gregorash

Administrative Secretary – Michèle Dupuis

Commission Activities

Program Objectives

The Commission has laid down the following objectives in order to more effectively carry out its mandate under The Provincial Police Act:

1. To assist in maintaining and improving police effectiveness and efficiency through receiving and reviewing reports on municipal policing; and providing advice, guidance and information on all policy matters relating to police and policing, and on crime prevention, to municipal police authorities throughout the province;
2. To assist in maintaining and improving municipal police services by promoting mutual awareness, understanding and support between police and the communities they serve;
3. To assist in maintaining and improving external and internal police effectiveness and credibility through hearing appeals from decisions on public complaints and from departmental discipline.

The Commission has developed a number of strategies by which to fulfill the program objectives.

Commission Meetings

The Commission met on some 16 occasions, either in full committee, in subcommittee or other session, to attend to a variety of regular business items, hear appeals or deal with special projects.

Conferences

Prairie Chiefs of Police Conference
Brandon, Manitoba, June 5-7, 1991

George Sarides, Executive Director, represented the Commission at this Conference.

Topics discussed at the Conference were North American Terrorism, Organized Crime, and Policing and the Community in the 1990's.

Seminar on "Police, the Community and the Administration of Justice"
Calgary, Alberta, August 22-23, 1991

The Executive Director, George Sarides, attended this Seminar which was sponsored by the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice.

Attendance at the Seminar provided the Commission with current perspectives on issues facing the police and community. Of particular interest were the workshops on community policing, Canadian minorities and police, natives and policing, and police and civil liability.

7th Annual Conference of the International Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (I.A.C.O.L.E.)
Calgary, Alberta, September 29 - October 2, 1991

The Chairman, George J. Orle, Q.C., attended this Conference on behalf of the Commission.

The theme "The Public, the Police and I.A.C.O.L.E.: A Relationship of Respect and Accountability" guided the speakers and panelists as they addressed a wide range of issues from public and police expectations of oversight to Aboriginal peoples perspectives of the complaints process.

16th Annual Symposium of Provincial Police Commissions
Winnipeg, Manitoba, October 3-6, 1991

The Manitoba Police Commission had the pleasure to host the Annual Symposium of Provincial Police Commissions. The theme of the Symposium was "Police Recruitment of Visible Minorities".

The Honourable Gary Filmon, Premier of Manitoba, brought greetings to the delegates on behalf of the province. As well, The Honourable James McCrae, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Manitoba, and The Honourable Doug Lewis, Solicitor General of Canada, provided keynote speeches at the luncheons.

Topics discussed at the 16th Annual Symposium were:

a) Social Trends Impacting on Police Minority Relations,

b) Policing in a Culturally Diverse Society – Current Strategies, Current Trends/New Directions in Police Minority Hiring,

c) An Overview of the Ontario Government Initiatives.

In addition, a panel discussion on Quotas and Affirmative Action in Police Recruitment Policies – Is It Necessary? was included.

At the closing banquet, The Honourable A. C. Hamilton, Associate Chief Justice, Court of Queen's Bench, provided the delegates with an informative overview of his experiences as the Commissioner of the Public Inquiry into the Administration of Justice and Aboriginal People.

Minority Hiring Initiatives Research Project

The overall objective of the study was to provide an accurate assessment of the issues and determine if the expressed concerns/perceptions regarding current minority hiring initiatives for police departments are based on current practices or policies.

Of prirnary concern to the Members of the Manitoba Police Commission is an examination of the application and impact of current recruitment and selection policies with the identification of systemic barriers, if any, faced by minority or affirmative action group members.

The final report has been received by the Members and the researchers will be invited to attend a Commission Meeting to review the report. The Members will then decide on the release of the report and will make recommendations from the study.

Appeals

During the period of this report, the Commission heard one appeal from a decision of the Commissioner of the Law Enforcement Review Agency. No appeals were heard from a decision of a local police commission.

(A) Public Complaints Against the Police

The complainant filed a complaint with the Commissioner of the Law Enforcement Review Agency (L.E.R.A.) alleging that on August 30, 1990 four members of the City of Winnipeg Police Department abused their authority by using oppressive or abusive conduct or language and abused their authority by being discourteous or uncivil towards the complainant in contravention of Sections 29(a) (iii) and (iv) of The Law Enforcement Review Act.

The Commissioner reviewed the complaint and rejected it as frivolous and vexatious and declined to take any further action. The complainant appealed that decision to the Manitoba Police Commission.

For a number of years the Police Commission (both the current Commission and those that preceded it) have stated in numerous decisions that the Police Act did not confer on the Commissioner a right to determine substantive questions of abuse of authority. Those decisions have essentially been ignored and it is only the allowance of those appeals that has let members of the public proceed with their right to a fair and impartial hearing of their complaints.

The Manitoba Police Commission decided that the complaint and the facts it was based upon were within the definition of disciplinary defaults as set out in Section 29 of The Law Enforcement Review Act. That being the case, the complainant was entitled to a hearing. The investigation and determination of those complaints is for the Law Enforcement Review Board, not the Commissioner.

The Police Commission allowed the appeal.

(B) General

As in previous years, the Commission received a number of complaints in which it had no primary jurisdiction. In all cases, the complainant was directed to the agency or other body which would receive and investigate the complaint, normally the Law Enforcement Review Agency, local police commission or Chief of Police.

Police Training and Education

Feasibility Study of Police Training Facility

The Manitoba Police Commission received support from the Minister of Justice to conduct research into the establishment of a police training facility in Manitoba.

The research focused on the Department of Labour's proposal to expand the present Fire College to include training for municipal police officers outside Winnipeg, as well as people employed in other emergency services.

The study examined legislation, policies, programs and practices relating to police training in other provinces.

As well, a review of the potential demand for training was included along with the curriculum, costs and proposed governance structure.

The study has now been completed and is presently being reviewed by the Commission.

Canadian Police College

The Commission continued to coordinate the allotment of positions for courses at the Canadian Police College, Ottawa, Ontario. Attendance at a wide variety of courses shows the interest of police departments in upgrading the skills and knowledge of their officers. In all, 59 positions were allocated to police departments from Manitoba. This number included 44 for Winnipeg, 11 for Brandon, 2 for the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council, 1 for Morden and 1 for Altona Police Department. The courses attended are shown at Appendix "B".

Crime Prevention and Police-Community Relations

Crime Prevention Presentations and Displays

a) Officer Ollie Program

The Commission's Crime Prevention Coordinator gave presentations to schools throughout the province. The Officer Ollie public relations police mascot performed to approximately 10,000 students. In its ten years of operation, this safety and crime prevention program involving Officer Ollie has been presented to over 144,700 children. This program is in demand in the schools and by local police departments as a police-community relations tool, and it is used on television, in newspapers and in other media programs. It is also used in parades and many fairs.

b) Special Presentations

The Crime Prevention Coordinator also made presentations to adult groups on special topics ranging from: farmers (dealing with range patrol), business communities (dealing with business security, cheque and credit card frauds, armed robbery), home owners (home security, Neighbourhood Watch, Block Parents, Block Watch and Manitoba Home Protection Program), senior citizens (personal security and freedom from fear of crime, and consumer fraud).

Integrated Committee on Prevention Strategies

The Integrated Committee on Prevention Strategies (I.C.O.P.S.) established in 1976 has the following goals:

1) exchange of new and old ideas concerning crime prevention;
2) distribution of crime prevention materials which all give the same message;
3) training and education of police departments regarding new crime prevention programs;
4) previewing new audiovisual materials and making them available to police departments;
5) setting up seminars on crime prevention promotion, drug abuse prevention, alcohol abuse prevention, business security, home security and personal security;
6) assisting the Department of Justice in recognizing citizens throughout the Province of Manitoba who have contributed greatly on a volunteer basis to making their communities a safer place to live.

The Committee is composed of representatives from the R.C.M.Police, Winnipeg Police Department, Brandon City Police Department, Manitoba Police Commission, Canadian Armed Forces Military Police, 7-Eleven Food Stores Security, Canadian Pacific Railway Police, Canadian National Railway Police, Department of Northern Affairs – Community Constable Program, Winnipeg International Airport Security and Convention Centre Security.

The I.C.O.P.S. Committee hosted the Minister of Justice of Manitoba Crime Prevention Awards Banquet in November to recognize citizens' and police officers' contributions to crime prevention in the province.

Multicultural Community Crime Prevention Pamphlets

The translation of crime prevention pamphlets into the Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino and Spanish languages has been completed.

The translated pamphlets of Neighbourhood Watch, Woman Alone, Home Security and Protection for Senior Citizens have been sent to police agencies and the appropriate community cultural centre.

The Members of the Commission wish to acknowledge the assistance provided by the multicultural community in reviewing the various drafts and ensuring the accuracy of the pamphlets.

Crime Prevention Seminars

The Crime Prevention Coordinator attended various seminars during the course of the year. The Coordinator continued to act as speaker, panel member and resource person at these functions. The seminars facilitate the exchange of crime prevention information amongst organizations, police, crime prevention committees, etc. in the Province of Manitoba. Topics ranged from vandalism and break-ins, to drug and alcohol abuse.

Selective Traffic Enforcement Program

The Commission is represented on the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (S.T.E.P.) Committee which has been formed by the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (M.P.I.C.) to increase public awareness on the importance of using seatbelts to save lives and reduce injuries to drivers and passengers.

This Committee is comprised of the following organizations: M.P.I.C., the R.C.M.Police, Winnipeg, Brandon and other municipal police departments, the Division of Driver and Vehicle Licencing and a number of groups dedicated to road safety.

Safe Grad and T.A.D.D. Committee (Teenagers Against Drinking and Driving)

The function of the Safe Grad and T.A.D.D. Committee is to eliminate accidents, death and misfortune by promoting safe practices in relation to alcohol and drug usage among young persons. The no-alcohol party is considered to be the viable alternative, along with making sure young persons do not drink and drive.

Manitoba Society of Criminology

The Commission is represented on the board of the Manitoba Society of Criminology for the purpose of exchanging ideas with many groups and organizations.

The Manitoba Society of Criminology was responsible for setting up many crime prevention programs and seminars during Crime Prevention Month which is held in November. They also hosted a Crime Prevention Kick-Off Breakfast and assisted in the Minister of Justice of Manitoba Crime Prevention Awards. The Criminology Society also obtains funding for special crime prevention programs within the province.

Operation Provident

The Commission continued to be the central registry for businesses and non-residential premises joining the Operation Provident property identification program. There were 169 Provident numbers assigned during 1991/92. Since the program began in 1979, the Commission has issued 6,983 Provident numbers.

Information Services

Library

A small library is maintained and stocked with publications on police training, security, crime prevention and law enforcement in general. Law enforcement periodicals are catalogued and available to police officers, students and the public. Specific articles on the administration of justice are filed for information and research purposes.

Crime Prevention Publications

A variety of pamphlets and booklets are available to the public, businesses, law enforcement agencies and other interested groups on a number of crime prevention topics:

Auto Theft Prevention
Business Security
Don't Run Away
Fraudulent Cheque Protection
Home Security
Manitoba Home Protection Program
Neighbourhood Watch
Operation Provident
Operation Identification
Protection for Senior Citizens
Tips to Stop Shoplifting
Woman Alone
Your Friend Officer Ollie
Officer Ollie Explains the Facts

The latter two booklets are made available for use by police in schools in conjunction with presentations of the Officer Ollie Program.

Manitoba Police Commission Pamphlet

The Police Commission pamphlet, which was prepared to provide members of the public and the police with an overview of the role and objectives of the Commission, has been translated into the following languages: Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino and Spanish.

Appendices

Appendices "B", "C" and "D" list cities and towns in Manitoba where municipal policing is in place, either through contract with the R.C.M.Police, or as a local municipal police department. Only those in "D" fall within the scope of the Commission, however.

Appendices "E" and "F" show locations where Native Police Forces or Community Constables are in place.

Appendix "A"

Canadian Police College

Courses attended by Manitoba police officers in 1991:

- Advanced Collision Analysis Course
- Advanced Vehicle Theft Investigative Techniques Course
- Commanders Course/Hostage Barricaded Persons
- Community Problem Analysis and Program Management Course
- Comprehensive Auditing for Police Course
- Computer Technology for Police Managers Course
- Drug Abuse Prevention Training Officers Course
- Drug Investigative Techniques Course
- Executive Development Course
- Forensic Identification Course
- Gambling Investigative Techniques Course
- Henry Fingerprint Classification Course
- Instructional Techniques Course
- Intelligence Analysis Course
- Major Crime Investigative Techniques Course
- Multicultural Education Trainers' Course
- Negotiators Course/Hostage Barricaded Persons
- Police Explosives Technicians Validation Course
- Police Labour Relations Course
- Post Blast Technicians Course
- Radiography Course
- Senior Police Administration Course
- Systems Approach to Training Design and Delivery Course

Appendix "B"

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Municipal Policing Contracts

- Beausejour (Town of)
- Boissevain (Town of)
- Carman (Town of)
- Dauphin (Town of)
- Flin Flon (City of)
- Gillam (L.G.D. of)
- Gimli (Town of)
- Killarney (Town of)
- Leaf Rapids (Town of)
- Lynn Lake (L.G.D. of)
- Minnedosa (Town of)
- Neepawa (Town of)
- Pinawa (L.G.D. of)
- Portage la Prairie (City of)
- Roblin (Town of)
- Russell (Town of)
- Selkirk (Town of)
- Souris (Town of)
- Steinbach (Town of)
- Stonewall (Town of)
- Swan River (Town of)
- The Pas (Town of)
- Thompson (City of)
- Virden (Town of)

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Municipal Policing Subcontracts

- Carberry (Town of)
- Morris (Town of)
- Snow Lake (Town of)

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Private Subcontract

- Sundance (Manitoba Hydro Limestone Project)

Appendix "C"

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Extension Contracts

Arborg (Village of)
Birtle (Town of)
Deloraine (Town of)
Gladstone (Town of)
Grandview (Town of)
Hamiota (Village of)
Lac du Bonnet (Village of)
MacGregor (Village of)
Manitou (Village of)
Melita (Town of)
Niverville (Village of)
Pilot Mound (Village of)
St. Pierre (Village of)
Ste. Rose du Lac (Village of)
Shoal Lake (Village of)
Teulon (Village of)
Treherne (Village of)
Winnipegosis (Village of)

Appendix "D"

Municipal Policing

Alexander (L.G.D. of)
Altona (Town of)
Brandon (City of)
Cornwallis (R.M. of)
East St. Paul (R.M. of)
Gilbert Plains (Village of)
Morden (Town of)
Rivers (Town of)
St. Clements (R.M. of)
Ste-Anne (Village of)
Victoria Beach (R.M. of)
Winkler (Town of)

City of Winnipeg

District 1	Inner-City Winnipeg West
District 2	St. James Assiniboia
District 3	North Winnipeg West – Old Kildonan
District 4	East – North Kildonan Transcona
District 5	St. Boniface St. Vital
District 6	South Winnipeg Fort Garry Charleswood Tuxedo

Appendix "E"

D.O.T.C. Police Department Reserve Detachments

Birdtail Sioux
Long Plain and Dakota Plains
Oak Lake Sioux
Roseau River
Sandy Bay
Sioux Valley
Swan Lake
Brandon (H.Q.)

Appendix "F"

Northern Community Constable Policing

Barrows
Berens River
Brochet
Cormorant
Crane River
Easterville
Manigotagan and Seymourville
Moose Lake
Pelican Rapids
South Indian Lake
Waterhen